R430-70-22. ANIMALS.

(1) The provider shall inform parents of the types of animals permitted at the facility.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to ensure that parents are aware of any animals their child may come in contact with at the program. This is important because the risk of injury, infection, and aggravation from allergies due to contact between children and animals could be significant. CFOC, pg. 111 Standard 3.042; pg. 335 Standard 8.005

Enforcement

Always Level 3 Noncompliance.

(2) All animals at the facility shall be clean and free of obvious disease or health problems that could adversely affect children.

Rationale / Explanation

Animals, including pets, can be a source of illness for people; likewise, people may be a source of illness for animals. The purpose of this rule is to prevent the spread of disease through contact with dirty or ill animals, and to prevent children from being bitten or otherwise injured by a sick animal. CFOC, pg. 112 Standard 3.044

Enforcement

Level 1 Noncompliance: If children have access to an animal with a disease that is transmissible to humans.

Level 3 Noncompliance otherwise.

(3) All animals at the facility shall have current immunizations for all vaccine preventable diseases that are transmissible to humans. The program shall have documentation of the vaccinations.

Rationale / Explanation

Animals, including pets, can be a source of illness for people; likewise, people may be a source of illness for animals. The purpose of this rule is to prevent the spread of disease through contact with dirty or ill animals, and to prevent children from being bitten or otherwise injured by a sick animal. CFOC, pg. 112 Standard 3.044

Enforcement

Licensors should look for documentation of rabies vaccinations for dogs, cats and ferrets to verify compliance with this rule.

If the program indicates an animal **has not been** vaccinated, this rule should be cited. If the program indicates an animal **has been** vaccinated, but they **cannot find the record** of it during an on-site visit, cite R430-70-9(1)(b) **only** as being out of compliance. If the provider still does not have the required record(s) on the follow-up visit, cite this rule.

Always Level 2 Noncompliance.

(4) There shall be no animal on the premises that has a history of dangerous, attacking, or aggressive

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behavior, or a history of biting even one person.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to prevent injury to children by an aggressive animal. CFOC, pg. 112 Standard 3.043

Enforcement

Always Level 1 Noncompliance.

(5) There shall be no animals or animal equipment in food preparation or eating areas.

Rationale / Explanation

The presence of animals in food preparation or eating areas can increase the risk of contaminating food. CFOC, pg. 170 Standard 4.042

Enforcement

Always Level 2 Noncompliance.

(6) Children shall not handle reptiles or amphibians.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to prevent the spread of salmonella. Reptiles may carry salmonella and pose a risk to children who are likely to put unwashed hands in their mouths. CFOC, pg. 112 Standard 3.043

Reptiles are cold-blooded air-breathing animals covered with scales, for example: snakes, lizards, and turtles. Amphibians are cold-blooded animals that are able to live both on land and in water, for example: frogs and salamanders. Dead stuffed reptiles and amphibians can be touched.

Enforcement

Always Level 2 Noncompliance.